

Appn. No.: 10/748,892
Amendment Dated March 13, 2006
Reply to Office Letter of January 11, 2006

PQC-326US



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appn. No: 10/748,892
Applicants: Yatao Hu et al.
Filed: December 30, 2003
Title: COMPOSITION OF, AND PROCESS FOR USING, SILICA XEROGEL
FOR BEER STABILIZATION
TC/A.U.: 1761
Examiner: Anthony J. Weier
Confirmation No.: 7428
Docket No.: PQC-326US

RESPONSE TO ELECTION REQUIREMENT

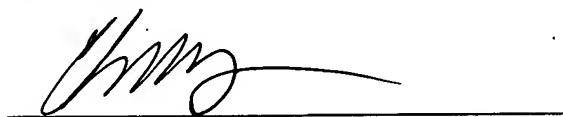
Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

S I R :

This is in response to the Election Requirement stated in the Office Letter dated **January 11, 2006**.

The Examiner requires that the applicants elect a single disclosed species (either the species of Group A (acid-set xerogel, claims 36 and 44) or Group B (alkaline-set xerogel, claims 37 and 45)) for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held allowable. Applicants elect the species of Group A. Currently, claims 23-26, 31-35, 38-43, and 46-56 are generic. Therefore, claims 23-26, 31-36, 38-44, and 46-56 are readable on the species of Group A. This election is made without traverse.

Respectfully submitted,



Christopher R. Lewis, Reg. No. 36,201
Attorney for Applicants

CRL/lrb

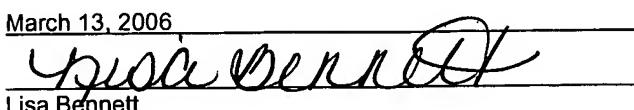
Dated: March 13, 2006

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The Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge payment to Deposit Account No. 18-0350 of any fees associated with this communication.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on:

March 13, 2006



Lisa Bennett